

# World Languages and Global Workforce Initiative: Dual Language Immersion (DLI)

## Dual Language Immersion Middle School Courses

### A brief history of DLI in Georgia

The first non-charter DLI public school program began in 2008 at Beulah ES in Douglas County. DLI programs experienced a rapid growth from 2014-2018 going from 6 to now 53 programs in 5 languages with more planned to open in the coming years. Georgia is a regional leader in DLI Education. Currently, over 5,000 students are in DLI programs in Georgia. (18% growth from last year)

Georgia added 13 new DLI programs in 2018



**Rationale for Spanish for Native Speakers Level 3**

- A current course to meet these needs does not exist.
- To provide a 3-course sequence so that students can complete pathway in this language

**Rationale for DLI ALL 6th Grade**

- A current course to meet these needs does not exist
- To provide a bridge and continuation for students completing a DLI program (or similar program of study)
- To provide students an opportunity to build language at the advanced level
- To allow student to begin working within the framework of Advanced Placement themes to begin preparation toward AP success in 10th grade.

**Rationale for both DLI "connections" courses.**

- Current courses to meet these needs do not exist
- To provide options for students to practice and build advanced language skills in media literacy, culture, and history

### The need for DLI courses

The current world language course code (created in 2002) currently does not have courses that effectively articulate the growing number of DLI students from MS into HS. There is effectively a curriculum gap in the course code for these students at the middle school level. These courses would fulfill a need which has been identified by multiple districts.

While the request to add the courses originated from Gwinnett county, the courses themselves were developed over the course of the last year with input from our GaDOE World Language University/College Advisory Board, the college board, the Georgia Department of Education and has been reviewed by all current district level DLI program administrators.

### Business Connection to DLI

DLI programs are increasingly popular for domestic and international workers relocating to the Atlanta area. Many workers for international companies may come for only a short time before transitioning back to their home countries. Having DLI programs in their heritage languages provides an economic asset to our state and region. Additionally, as DLI programs expand around the USA, families and workers from other states are seeking programs where their children can continue this model of education. Georgia's economy is increasingly global and the need for linguistic and intercultural skills is rising.

### Georgia's Dual Language Immersion Family of Districts and Schools

### Research on the DLI model



The Dual Language Immersion Model is a state approved ESOL delivery model and is mentioned in the [State's ESSA Plan](#). (See page 10). Substantial research has confirmed the efficacy of the model for all learners. (See research by Thomas & Collier.) An initial matched comparison study of Georgia DLI student achievement on the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade milestones conducted in July 2018 also indicated a significant improvement in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade ELA and Math scores for DLI students.